

Resolution No.:	<u>17-1272</u>
Introduced:	<u>October 28, 2014</u>
Adopted:	<u>November 25, 2014</u>

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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By: Councilmembers Floreen, Rice, Berliner, Branson, Navarro, and Riemer

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**SUBJECT:** Special Appropriation to the FY15 Operating Budget  
Montgomery County Government  
Department of Economic Development  
Marketing and Business Development, \$150,000

**Background**

1. Section 308 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that a special appropriation must be approved by not less than six Councilmembers and is an appropriation which states that it is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency, or to act without delay in the public interest. The Council may approve a special appropriation at any time after public notice by news release. Each special appropriation shall specify the source of funds to finance it.
2. In the FY15 Approved Operating Budget, \$100,000 was appropriated in the budget of the Department of Economic Development to fund challenge grants and prizes for entrepreneurs and innovators.
3. The Kaufmann Foundation for Entrepreneurship identifies best practices in entrepreneurship policy. In 2014, the Kaufmann Foundation urged policy makers to shift from distribution of large grants or prizes to distribution of multiple small prizes.
4. This increase would substantially increase the number of small grants and prizes that could be distributed through the program and support other marketing and business development programs.
5. The Department of Economic Development must submit a report to the Council by January 15, 2015 outlining its plans for the use of these funds to enhance marketing and business development efforts. These funds must not be spent until 20 days after the Council receives this report.
6. This increase is needed because the regional economy is lagging. After years of strong performance relative to the nation, the economy is contracting relative to other regions.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area ranked 330<sup>th</sup> out of all U.S. metropolitan areas in terms of percentage change in real gross domestic product in 2013. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2014, Maryland ranked 47<sup>th</sup> in terms of percent change in personal income from the previous quarter.

7. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held on November 25, 2014.
8. The County Council declares this request is in the public interest, to be acted upon without delay, as provided for under special appropriation requirements described in Article 3, Section 308 of the Montgomery County Charter.

**Action**

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

A special appropriation to the FY15 Operating Budget of the Department of Economic Development is approved as follows:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	General Fund Reserves

This is a correct copy of Council action.

  
Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council